



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
SHS-11

August 4, 1989

Merle Colby, President
Town Board
Town of Griffith
111 North Broad Street
Griffith, Indiana 46319-2294

RE: Sampling Results - Griffith Sanitary Landfill New Cell Construction

Dear Mr. Colby:

On June 2, 1989, members of U.S. EPA and the Weston-SPER Technical Assistance Team (TAT) conducted emergency sampling at the Town of Griffith Sanitary Landfill. The sampling was performed in response to citizen complaints that contaminated groundwater from the American Chemical Services (ACS) Facility and leachates from the Griffith landfill were being discharged to the local surface water. Citizen complaints also raised concern that sand, which was being excavated for the construction of a new sanitary landfill cell and which was possibly contaminated with ACS contaminated groundwater, was being sold for off-site use.

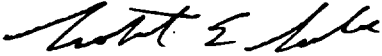
During the duration of our investigation into the conditions at the landfill facility, the TAT members obtained samples of the landfill leachate, a sample of groundwater from the excavation cell wall, and a sample of the sand excavated from the new landfill cell. Although significant rainfall had occurred prior to our sampling investigation (app. 6 inches), we believe that the samples were representative of the site conditions. The analysis of the samples generally revealed nondetectable quantities for many of the compounds suspected to have emanated from the ACS site, or from the sanitary landfill. The compounds which were detected, were all well below levels deemed safe by the Agency. This conclusion does not, however, preclude any future conclusions which may result from data collected during the ongoing Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study at the ACS site, of which the Town of Griffith Sanitary Landfill is part.

As a result of this sampling, and the subsequent interpretation of the analytical results, it appears at this time that the construction activities which were ceased per my request may now resume without further delay.

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The final TAT report with the attached analytical data, is still not available to me at this time, when it is made available, I will gladly provide copies of the report to the Town of Griffith. If you have any questions please contact me at (312) 886-5116.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Swale
Remedial Project Manager